

Message Text

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45

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-12 ADP-00 SS-14 NSC-10 L-03 H-02

AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 EA-11 FRB-02

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 OPIC-12 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 LAB-06

SIL-01 SAL-01 OMB-01 AGR-20 TAR-02 STR-08 RSR-01 PA-03

PRS-01 USIA-12 (ADP) W

----- 064875

R 301239 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7878

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 2509

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, IS, IT

SUBJECT: ITALIAN FONMIN VISIT TO ISRAEL: ISRAEL- EC RELATIONS

1. DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEPT OF MFA, HARAN, MADE FOLLOWING
COMMENTS TO EMBOFF MAR 30 ON ISRAEL- EC RELATIONS, WHICH WERE
DISCUSSED DURING VISIT OF FONMIN MEDICI IN ISRAEL MARCH
26 TO 29. (HARAN PARTICIPATED IN TALKS.)

2. GOI MADE FIVE POINTS TO MEDICI, ACCORDING TO HARAN.
(A) ISRAELIS WANTED BALANCED AGREEMENT WITH THE EC. BY THIS
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THEY MEANT THAT ISRAEL WAS NOT PREPARED TO REDUCE DUTIES ON INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS TO ZERO, UNLESS EC WAS CORRESPONDINGLY PREPARED TO REDUCE DUTIES ON ISRAEL'S AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS TO EC.

(B) ISRAEL WANTED EQUALITY OF TREATMENT FOR ITS AGRICULTURAL

EXPORTS TO EC, SIMILAR TO TREATMENT ACCORDED TO OTHER MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES.

(C) IN NEGOTIATIONS TO BE CONDUCTED THIS YEAR, ISRAEL DESIRED NO IMPAIRMENT IN BENEFITS ACCORDED BY PRESENT ISRAEL- EC AGREEMENT. THIS HAS PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO ISRAEL'S EXPORTS TO UK AND OTHER NEWLY ADMITTED EC STATES. (HARAN MENTIONED FRUIT JUICES AS PARTICULAR EXAMPLE.)

(D) ISRAEL EXPECTED THAT NEW AGREEMENT TO BE NEGOTIATED WOULD PROVIDE LONGER TRANSITION PERIOD FOR ISRAEL THAN IT WOULD FOR EC. IN OTHER WORDS, ISRAEL EXPECTED THAT EC WOULD REDUCE ITS TARIFFS ON ISRAELI GOODS AT FASTER RATE THAN ISRAEL WOULD REDUCE TARIFFS ON EC GOOD.

(E) ISRAEL EXPECTED THAT AGREEMENT TO BE NEGOTIATED THIS YEAR WOULD ENTER INTO FORCE BY END OF 1973. IN FACT, ISRAEL AND ITALY SIGNED PROTOCOL TO THIS EFFECT DURING MEDICI'S VISIT.

3. HARAN DESCRIBED ITALIAN REACTION TO FOREGOING POINTS AS GENERALLY FAVORABLE. HOWEVER, HE ALSO SAID THAT ITALIANS DID NOT REACT AT ALL TO POINTS MADE IN CONNECTION WITH ISRAEL'S AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS TO EC. ACCORDING TO HARAN ITALIANS SAID THAT THEIR ATTITUDE TOWARD NEW AGREEMENT WOULD BE FORMULATED WITHIN CONTEXT OF THE EC'S "GLOBAL APPROACH" TO MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES.

4. COMMENT: FINAL TARIFF REDUCTIONS PROVIDED FOR BY AGREEMENT OF JUNE 1970 WILL OCCUR JANUARY 1, 1974. WHAT ISRAEL IS DESCRIBING ABOVE ARE ITS DESIRED TERMS FOR FOLLOW- ON AGREEMENT, WHICH WILL SUBSUME PROBLEMS RAISED BY EXPANSION OF EC TO NINE STATES AS WELL AS INCORPORATE MEDITERRANEAN POLICY. MEANWHILE, ISRAEL IS STILL UNCLEAR ABOUT US POLICY ON PRESENT ISRAEL- EC AGREEMENT.
ZURHELLEN

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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